

In the Specification:

Kindly make the following amendments to the specification:

Page 1, after the title and before line 3, insert:

--This application claims the benefit of Danish Application No. PA 2002-00984 filed June 26, 2002 and PCT/DK2003/000410 filed June 20, 2003.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

There is described an apparatus in DE-A1-44 32 849 where the mass of an item may be determined. The drawback of this apparatus is that its system of a measuring cell and a coil in a oscillatory circuit cannot be used for measuring conducting items, as e.g. living individuals, as the oscillator of the apparatus will stop ~~swinging~~ oscillating if an electric conducting item passes the measuring cell.

Please add the following paragraphs on page 3, before line 1:

--DE-A1-44 46 346 describes an apparatus, which makes it possible to measure the change in body part electrolyte volume, which body part is positioned between two capacitor plates.

The disadvantage of the apparatus according to DE-A1-44 46 346 is that the measurement of the electrolyte volume change only concerns the body part volume and not the body part weight.

According to DE-A1-44 46 346 the resonant frequency is preferably described in MHz range. This is, however, a disadvantage as frequencies in MHz range causes the capacitor

plates to act as an antenna, and it is impossible to measure any electrolyte volume change.

Furthermore, high resonant frequency demands smaller capacitor plates and a small distance between the capacitor plates for functioning. This only allows measurement of a small electrolyte volume; hence the apparatus does not apply to large body parts or entire animals, e.g. pigs.

From looking at fig. 2 and 3 and the complying description one derives that the electrical circuits shown are either oscillating circuits or simple measuring bridges. The oscillating circuit does not function properly as no frequency variation occur due to the use of only one resistor and one capacitor in the circuit, thus the oscillating circuit only acts as a non-oscillating filter. The simple measuring bridge only measures change in electrolyte volume

According to EP-A2-1 091 215 a bioelectric impedance measuring apparatus for humans is described having a number of electrodes. Measurement is only performed, when a barefooted person is positioned on the electrodes, hence being in galvanic contact with the electrodes, as current is sent through the electrodes into the person's body and the impedance is measured and the data is computed into different body constitutions.

It is not possible to imagine an animal standing accurately enough for current to be sent through the feet/legs in order to measure impedance. Furthermore, the apparatus does not measure accurately, when a hoofed animal is positioned on the electrodes,

as the hooves function as an electrical isolator. Another disadvantage is that the hooves of any animal, e.g. pig hooves, are dirty and the dirt intervenes with the impedance measurement.

It does not appear from EP-A2-1 091 215 that two sets of electrodes can be arranged opposite each other, instead it appears that the person is in galvanic contact with both sets of electrodes, which allows the apparatus to measure the conductivity and compute the person's weight.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment of the invention for weighing pigs, the measuring cell is designed with two electric conducting plates having a size of e.g. 800 x 1000 mm, where, by applying a voltage, typically a high frequency voltage, the measuring cell will act as a ~~condensator~~ capacitor, the capacity of which being dependent on the plate size, the distance between the plates and the dielectricity constant inherent of the material (air or animal) between the plates.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, a measuring bridge is used, where the use of a measuring bridge provides possibility of even a small change in capacity between the least two electric conducting plates may provide a significant measuring result, as the results of the measuring bridge are

based on the vector length and the phase shift between two ~~condensators~~ capacitors in the measuring bridge.

Please replace the paragraphs beginning at page 14, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraphs:

- the ~~signal~~ instrumentation amplifier 4 amplifies the difference between the input signals from the measuring bridge 3 ~~goes through an instrument amplifier 4 that separates the signal over the two condensators of the measuring bridge from each other by angle and vector length;~~
- the signal from instrumentation amplifier 4 goes through a ~~loss-free~~ loss-free voltage rectifier 5 rectifying the signal to a DC voltage which is proportional with the signal from the instrumentation amplifier 4;

Please add the following paragraph on page 14, before line 25:

--According to an alternative embodiment of the invention the signal from the measuring bridge 3 goes through an instrumentation amplifier 4 that separates the signal over the two capacitors of the measuring bridge from each other by angle and vector length.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 24 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The two plates 12 ~~are~~ may be connected with a coil 15 which in turn is connected to the control unit 14 placed in immediate vicinity of the measuring cell 2.